

ruling Section 5 unconstitutional. Since this ruling, we have seen an unprecedented number of bills introduced in state legislatures intended to restrict the precise right that the men and women we are honoring today fought to gain.

Not only are minority and low-income Americans' voting rights under assault, but the persistent opportunity gaps in employment, education, life skills, and career preparation continue to make the American Dream elusive for far too many Americans.

We must follow the example of these brave Foot Soldiers, and continue to fight injustice and inequality to create economic opportunities for everyone.

STEM EDUCATION ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. TONY CÁRDENAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2015

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Mr. Speaker, I offer today my full support for H.R. 1020, the STEM Education Act of 2015. In an increasingly technology-based world, businesses and other organizations continue to invest in, and rely heavily upon, information technology (IT) to increase efficiency, reduce costs, and safeguard information. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that the high tech industry will be among the fastest growing industries in the coming years. We must do more to ensure that our youth are properly prepared and educated to compete in the job market of the future, so that the United States can continue to be an international innovation leader. Unfortunately, our education system has been slow to adapt to the growing demand for computer scientists and software engineers. By 2020, there will be an estimated 1.4 million computer programming jobs, with only 400,000 American computer science students to fill those jobs.

With globalization increasing competition for high paying jobs, I cannot stress enough the importance and value of a strong and innovative computer science education in today's economy. Computer programming jobs are growing at twice the national average rate of job growth and computer science remains one of the highest paying college degrees, more than doubling the national median annual wage. These jobs also provide Americans with a living-wage and an opportunity to be financially secure. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the median annual wage in 2010 for computer programmers was \$71,380 while the median annual wage was \$33,840 for all workers.

I support H.R. 1020, because it continues the push for STEM programs to better prepare our youth for the computer programming jobs of the future so that the United States can continue being a world leader in innovation.

WELCOMING AUNJANUE ELLIS TO
"MOVING FORWARD AND SET-
TING THE WORLD"

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2015

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome Ms. Aunjanue Ellis to the annual Black History Month event "Moving Forward and Setting the World," organized by the Canisius College Academic Talent Search Program.

The Moving Forward and Setting the World event will feature the African-German Art Exhibition from Homestory, Germany to honor Black History Month.

The Canisius College Academic Talent Search Program, the host of this event, has shaped positive impact on many Western New York communities. The program is among eight federally funded TRIO programs established under Title IV of the Higher Education act of 1965. The Academic Talent Search Program provides educational, social and career support services for individuals with disadvantaged backgrounds in local schools and community service organizations.

Ms. Aunjanue Ellis, who I welcome to this event, is a famed actress who will star as the lead character in the 2015 miniseries "The Book of Negroes." Ms. Ellis has also been a star in award winning films such as "The Help," "Men of Honor," and "Ray."

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to welcome the accomplished Ms. Aunjanue Ellis. I ask you to join me in thanking Ms. Ellis for speaking at this valued local event. I wish Ms. Ellis continued success in her acting career, and to continually see Ms. Ellis in influential roles.

HONORING GONZALO ARROYO

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2015

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Gonzalo Arroyo for his nearly two decades of commitment to helping low-income and immigrant families in Aurora, Illinois, through his leadership of Family Focus Aurora.

Gonzalo began working at Family Focus' Aurora Center in 1996, and has served as the director of the facility since 1998. During that time, he has helped countless families and individuals through the organization's many programs, from counseling new parents to computer classes aimed at improving work skills. Under Gonzalo's direction, Family Focus also has become a leader in providing guidance for recent immigrants looking to start a new chapter of their lives in Illinois.

I would like to congratulate Gonzalo for his hard work and his commitment to Family Focus Aurora and the people of our community. Although Gonzalo's leadership will be missed, I have no doubt that the work he has done and the lessons he has passed on will continue to serve and inspire the people of Aurora for many years to come.

HONORING MARTINSVILLE CANDY
KITCHEN OF MARTINSVILLE, IN

HON. TODD C. YOUNG

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, mom-and-pop businesses are a vital part of local economies. Martinsville Candy Kitchen, located in Martinsville, Indiana, is a primary example of a small, family-owned business that has maintained a tradition of community involvement and devotion to making quality products. The Candy Kitchen not only influences the local economy but also serves as an important landmark in the Martinsville community.

The Martinsville Candy Kitchen has been in operation since 1919, producing 16 flavors of candy canes and other sweet treats. Over 30,000 candy canes are handmade in this shop every year. Considering that a batch takes more than 3 hours, we can understand the immensity of the task they take on each year. The owners of the business, Pam and John Badger, have been known to spend late nights in the kitchen working on large batches of candy canes. Therefore, I am proud to honor the Martinsville Candy Kitchen in this installment of the 9th District's "Hoosier Small Business Spotlight."

Following 95 years of business, the Martinsville Candy Kitchen continues to be a staple within the area in which it operates. People from all across Indiana visit the business to see candy canes being made during "pour times," becoming a Christmas tradition for many families. In addition, the alleyway adjacent to the shop has been officially named "Candy Cane Lane" in recognition of the Candy Kitchen's presence in the community.

The history of Martinsville Candy Kitchen begins with its founder, Jim Zapapas, who learned the candy trade in St. Louis before moving to Indianapolis in 1916. His business originated as a short-order restaurant, soda fountain, and candy shop two years later. Over time, the company has had several owners. In early 2004, Pam and John Badger bought the Candy Kitchen from Bob and Karen Boyce, who were on the verge of having to close the doors of their business. The Badgers decided to buy the company in order to keep the historic business as a living part of Martinsville. Balancing their time between working full-time jobs and owning a business, they demonstrated their dedication to the community and the work ethic necessary to run a successful organization.

The Badgers' devotion to their customers and to the quality of their products has sustained their company's legacy. Their efforts serve as a testimony to the longstanding success of their business. The Candy Kitchen has been a Martinsville attraction since opening over 95 years ago, and it will continue to be a significant landmark for years to come.

HONORING GUSTAVO SAMBRANO

HON. BETO O'ROURKE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2015

Mr. O'ROURKE. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today to recognize Mr. Gustavo